

Council on Aging Board Meeting October 8, 2003

In Attendance:

Chairman Paul Keegan, Vice-Chairman Helene Tanenholtz, Board members Al Crommett, Lillian Goodman, Tim Swiss and Secretary John Concordia. Director Sharon Yager and Phyllis Pearson (representing Friends of the SCC, Inc) were also present. Board member Helen McLaughlin was excused.

Chairman's Comments:

The chairman opened the meeting at 10 am. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. He mentioned that we still expect the 3rd van in November and that Town Meeting article regarding funding its operation was not required.

Director's Comments:

The Director indicated that 4 people (Sharon, Vicky, Al Crommett and Mrs. Crommett) will be attending the annual MCOA conference this month. Sharon has arranged a schedule of workshop attendance for each one. She also attended a Sr. Coalition conference last week.

Liaison Reports:

Friends of the SCC, Inc.: Phyllis reported that the Friends activities during the Shrewsbury Fall Festival included "Jail and Bail", Jewelry Sales and "Busy Hands" products. All were successful in raising funds for their organization which will benefit the COA and for which the board is grateful.

Shrewsbury Comm.Part. /Children: Dolores (late arrival to meeting) reported that the program is up and running with the same participants as last year.

Elder Services, Worc. /Outreach: Jacquie was away—Paul shared her report of activity with the board.

Old Business:

Nutrition Issue: Sharon and the Town Manager attended a meeting with Sue Ramsey of the Age Center in Worcester on September 18th to develop more close communication channels for monitoring the nutrition program and our new site manager. We are hopeful that some improvements will be realized.

Computer Projects: New computers for the staff are being installed.

Health Fair Committee Wrap-up: Lillian reported that the committee had met on the 7th to review and evaluate performance—most positive in all aspects. Approximately 300 people attended the affair with 132 "exit forms" completed. The screenings were most appreciated while the panel presentations were less popular. Thank you acknowledgements have been sent and particular thanks expressed for the work of Marcia in providing volunteers for the day.

Newsletter issues: Ailsa, editor, presented a review of her efforts to update the "ads" situation and her aspirations to make the newsletter more useful and appealing to readers. After some discussion the board decided that a "focus" committee would help to keep the board on top of things.

Sharon was named to be the spokesperson for the board in dealing with the media and board members were reminded to be circumspect in making comments to others regarding COA matters.

New Business:

Budget planning will be done at a workshop scheduled for 29 October at 10:30am.

Sharon indicated that the formula grant will be about \$6,000.00 more than we had budgeted—after some discussion the board decided to use this increase for volunteer recognition and to allocate more hours to the volunteer coordinator's position.

Other:

Flu shots will be available on October 23rd at the center. Volunteers are needed to help fill out forms. Sharon will apply for a "cultural arts" grant of \$1000.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Concordia, Secretary